

10/537368

JC20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 02 JUN 2005
Dkt. 2271774559

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Masakazu MURANAKA and Tetsuya HIRUMA
Serial No. : Not Yet Known Int'l Appl'n No.: PCT/JP2003/015440
Date Filed : Concurrently Herewith Int'l Filing Date: 2 December 2003
For: INK CARTRIDGE, HOUSING THEREFOR, INK BAG, INK-JET RECORDING
APPARATUS, INK CONTAINER, AND IMAGE-FORMING APPARATUS

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Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to the applicant's duty of disclosure, the information listed in the attached Form PTO-1449 is brought to the attention of the Examiner.

It is respectfully requested that the information cited in annexed Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, filed concurrently herewith, and that such art be made of record in said application.

The subject application is a U.S. national phase application under 35 U.S.C. 371 of International Application No. PCT/JP2003/015440. Some of the items listed on the annexed Form PTO-1449 were cited in the International Search Report in connection with International Application No. PCT/JP2003/015440. A copy of the International Search Report is submitted concurrently herewith.

The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or

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exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that these items are prior art. The items listed are submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of the particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).


According to the August 5, 2003 OG Notice published by the Patent and Trademark Office, the Office has waived the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each cited U.S. patent application publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003 and for all international application that have entered the national stage under 35 U.S.C. §371 after June 30, 2003.

Accordingly, copies are submitted herewith for only references listed on the annexed Form PTO-1449 that are not a U.S. patent or U.S. patent application publication.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement and to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 2, 2005


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Form PTO-1449		U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office		Atty. Docket No. 2271/74559		Serial No. 10/537368 <small>Not Yet Known</small>	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary)				Applicants: Masakazu MURANAKA et al.		Filing Date: Herewith	
Group Art Unit:							

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS													
Examiner Initial		Document Number							Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
		5	6	6	6	1	4	6	9-9-1997	Mochizuki et al.			
		5	7	8	8	3	8	8	8-4-1998	Cowger et al.			
		5	8	6	0	3	6	3	1-19-1999	Childers et al.			
		6	2	6	4	3	1	4	7-24-2001	Mochizuki et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS																
		Document Number							Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation			
														Yes	No	
	JP	6	0	-	3	2	6	7	1	2-19-1985	Japan				Abstract	
	JP	6	3	-	1	5	7	5	2	1-22-1988	Japan				Abstract	
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	JP	1	0	-2	0	2	9	0	0	8-4-1998	Japan				Abstract	
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	JP	20	01	-	2	4	7	6	3	1-26-2001	Japan				Abstract	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609: Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.